



National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

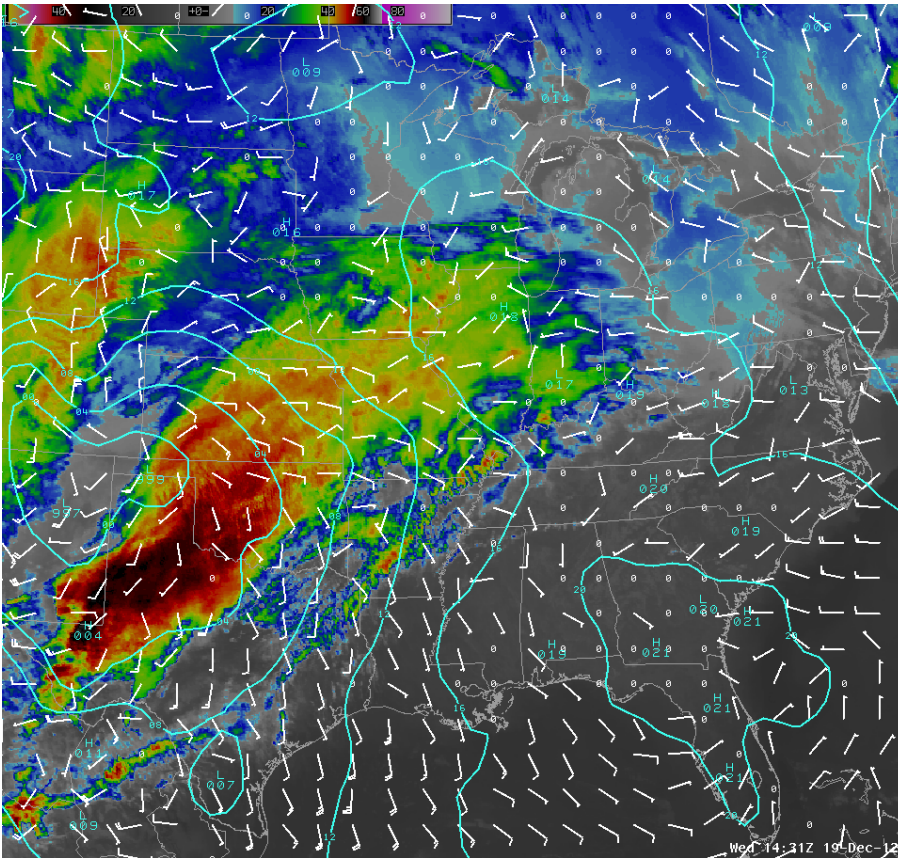


In this update:

- Slight risk for severe thunderstorms Thursday

Overview:

- Severe thunderstorms possible tomorrow in the southeastern U.S.
- Primary threat will be marginally severe wind gusts.
- Weak instability may limit overall severe threat.
- Gale Watch will be issued for Thursday evening and overnight.
- First freeze in near four weeks expected Friday and Saturday nights.

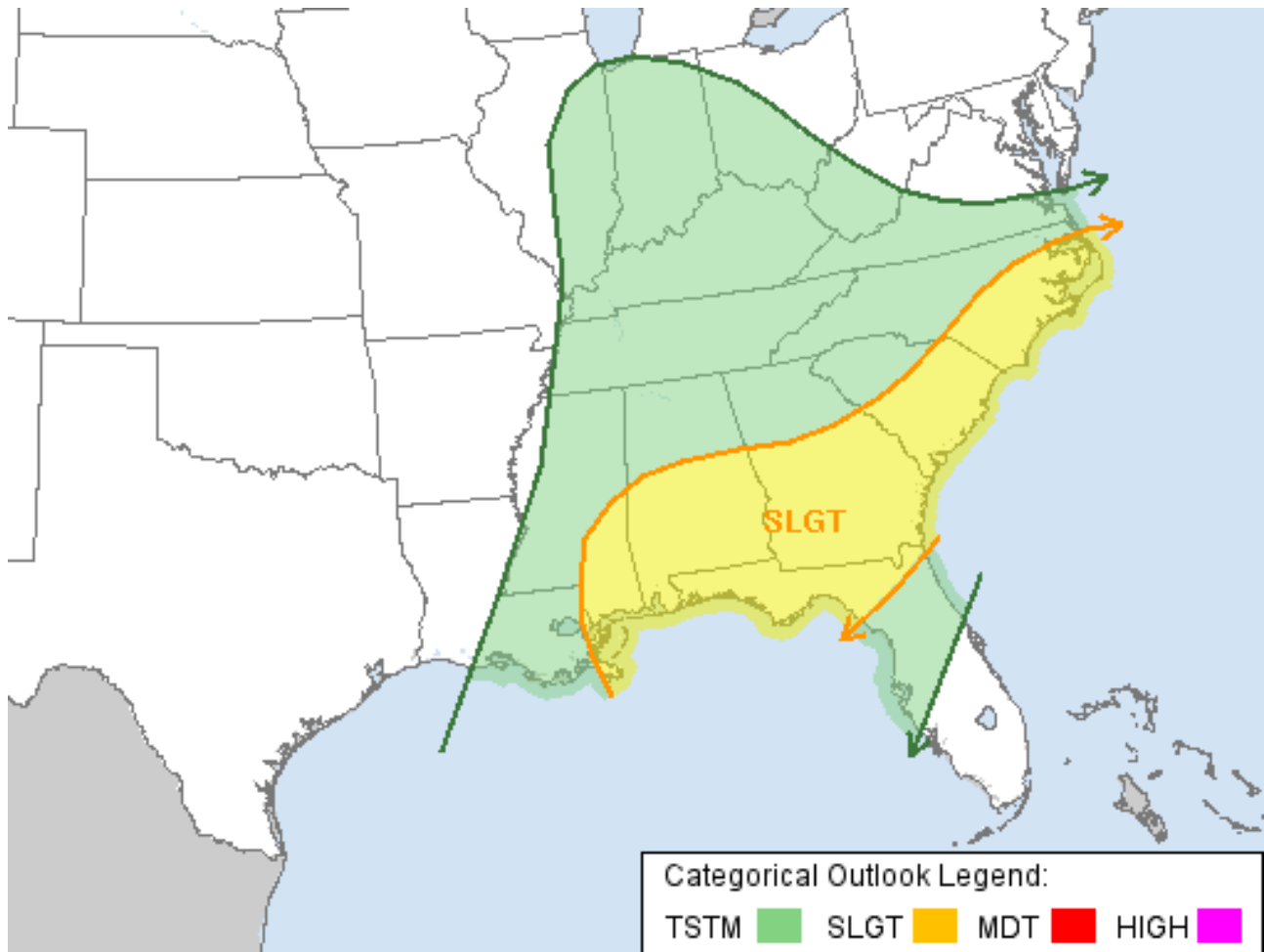


IR satellite imagery, surface winds, and surface pressure analysis
valid 9:31 AM EST 19 December 2012.

The current weather picture:

The next system to bring potential severe weather to the region is organizing over the southwestern U.S. this morning. As an upper level impulse pivots across the Four Corners region, low pressure is developing near the Texas & Oklahoma Panhandles. This low will race northeastward to near the southern tip of Lake Michigan by Thursday evening. The trailing cold front will cross the forecast area between 3PM and 10 PM EST. Showers and thunderstorms will accompany this front. Some of the storms could be marginally severe with damaging winds the primary threat.

The Event:

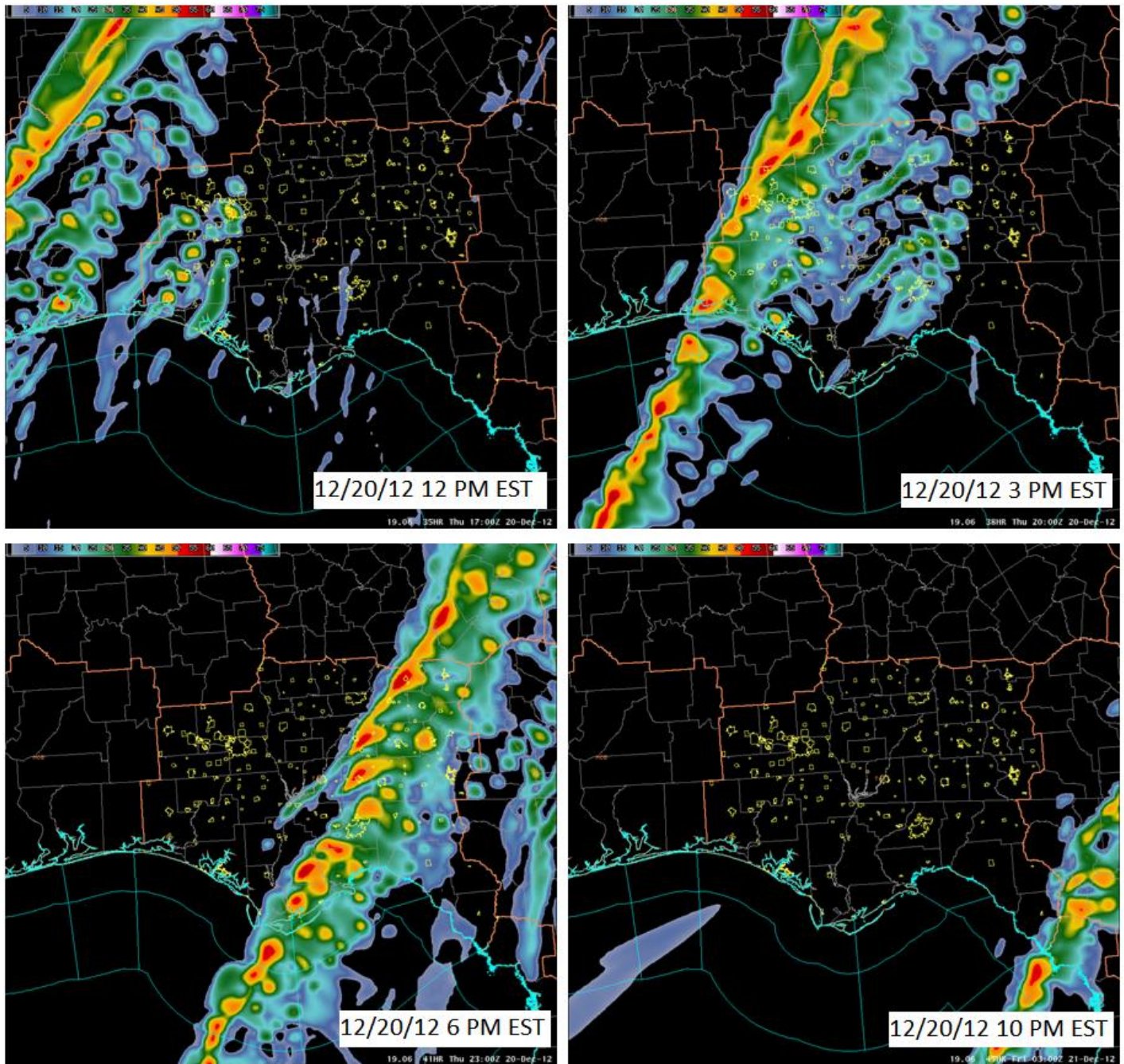


The SPC Day 2 Convective Outlook (valid 7 AM EST December 20, 2012 – 7 AM EST December 21, 2012), shows the Southeastern U.S. in a slight risk for severe thunderstorms tomorrow. Areas shaded in yellow have a 15% chance of seeing severe thunderstorms within 25 miles of a point.

Impacts:

As is typical of winter time, this system is forecast to arrive in an environment that features high shear and meager instability. The latter will be a limiting factor that should keep the event from becoming a major severe weather outbreak. That said, there should be sufficient forcing in the vicinity of the front to allow for strong environmental winds to mix down to the surface. The result is expected to be a threat for marginally severe wind gusts with the threat gradually diminishing from the coast inland. There will also be very slight threat for tornadoes if sufficient instability can become established.

Timing:

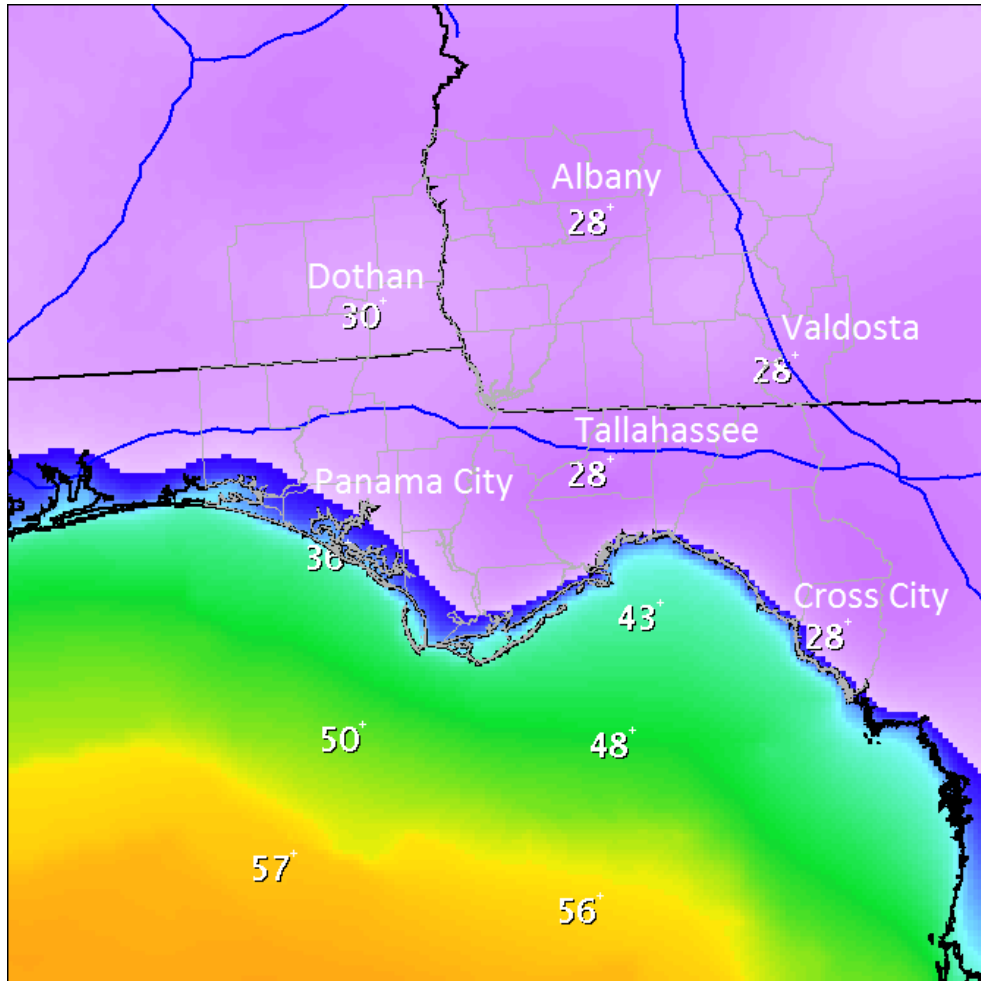


The local WRF model forecast radar reflectivities show the expected timing of the storm movement tomorrow afternoon.

The series of images above depicts one possible representation of the timing of the frontal squall line. There is above average confidence in the timing and we do not expect departures of more than a couple of hours from these estimates. The strong to severe storms are expected to

reach our Southeast Alabama zones by around 2 PM EST, an Albany GA-Tallahassee FL-Apalachicola FL line by around 6 PM EST and exit east of Dixie County by 10 PM EST.

Secondary Impacts:



Official NWS forecast minimum temperatures for Friday night. Temperatures 32 F and below are colored in purple.

Much colder air will arrive in the wake of this system and the first widespread freeze is expected Friday night into Saturday morning. Freeze watches are likely to be issued tomorrow night for Friday night. Another freeze is expected the following night.

Winds over the marine area are expected to increase behind the front. Sustained offshore winds could reach 30 knots Thursday night with frequent gusts to gale force expected. A Gale Watch will be issued later today.

Summary:

- Severe storms possible from around midday through the evening
- Greatest threat will be for marginally severe wind gusts, but an isolated tornado cannot be ruled out.
- Frequent gale-force gusts are expected Thursday evening and overnight behind the cold front.
- The first freeze in nearly four weeks is expected Friday night.

The National Weather Service in Tallahassee will continue to monitor this situation. If you have any questions, please give our office a call at 850-942-8833 or on our toll free line at 800-598-4562 and ask to speak to a meteorologist. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us on our Southern Linc phone at 1*77*184.